CAMPAIGN FOR BRITISH WITHDRAWAL

'The British government
has no right in Ireland,
never had any right in Ireland,
and never can have any right in Ireland'

When James Connolly spoke these words in May 1916 he was only hours from facing a British firing squad. This prospect did not deter him from re-asserting the fundamental right of the people of Ireland to determine their own future, free from British interference.

That right has yet to realised and until it is it will be impossible to establish a thirty-two county Irish Republic that truly cherishes all the children of the nation equally, regardless of gender, class, religion or ethnicity.

Such a Republic, based upon the principles of sovereignty, democracy, liberty, justice, equality, community and international solidarity represents the best framework for reconciling those false divisions within Irish society that have been so carefully nurtured for centuries past.

éirígí believes that the building of a grassroots mass movement for British withdrawal is the most effective way to challenge British imperialism today. Such a movement will need to be organised across all thirty-two counties and contain not only political parties but also community groups, trade unions and cultural organisations as well as non-aligned individuals.

For its part éirígí is committed to playing an active role in such a new movement and is currently highlighting the true nature of Britain's role in Ireland, which remains that of a colonial occupier.

JOIN éirígí

éirígí is a campaigns focused political party committed to ending the British occupation of the six counties and the establishment of a thirty-two county Irish Socialist Republic.

Formed in April 2006, éirígí is currently involved in a number of major campaigns, including:

'Reclaim the Republic' is encouraging people to become active in creating a Republic of the type envisaged by those who wrote the 1916 Proclamation. As part of this initiative éirígí has distributed, on a not for profit basis, 70,000 poster-size 1916 Proclamations to homes across Ireland.

The campaign to nationalise Ireland's Natural Resources has seen éirígí activists resisting the Dublin government's giveaway of Ireland's oil and gas reserves, most notably the Corrib gas field off the coast of Co Mayo.

'Imperialists out of Ireland' is challenging the use of Ireland as a base for Imperialism, particularly the use of Shannon airport and other Irish airports by the US military.

Is féidir leagan Gaeilge den bhileog seo a íoslódáil ón suíomh s'againn @..www.eirigi.org

Initially a Dublin based organisation éirígí is now actively building across the country. If you are interested in joining or helping éirígí you can do so by:
e-mailing membership@eirigi.org or phoning (00 353) 086 236 7298
or by filling out the form below and returning it to PO Box 10769, Dublin 6

Yes, I would like to to join/help éirígí.

Name/Ainm.....

Address/Seoladh.....

.....

Telephone/Fón.....

E-mail/R-Phost.....

Age/Aois.....

Please return to éirígí PO Box 10769, Dublin 6

www.eirigi.org

'THEY HAVEN'T GONE AWAY YOU KNOW.....'

www.eirigi.org

THEY REALLY HAVEN'T GONE AWAY

Over the course of the last decade there has been much publicity about the British Army's programme of 'normalisation' in Ireland. What has received far less publicity is the fact that the British Army retains a 'permanent garrison' of 5,000 combat troops in the occupied six counties.

These troops, who are based in ten permanent British Army bases, are primarily tasked with maintaining 'internal security'. This means that they can, and will, be rapidly mobilised onto Irish streets and into Irish fields should the need arise. In the meantime, they will be busy training and preparing for tours of duty in other occupied countries such as Afghanistan and Iraq.

Political control of these soldiers will, as ever, rest firmly in Number 10 Downing Street.

OCCUPIED IRAQ

1 British soldier for every 4900 persons

OCCUPIED AFGHANISTAN

1 British soldier for every 4600 persons

10 PERMANENT BASES

Abercorn Barracks, Ballykinler
Aldergrove
Balykinler Training Camp
Divis Key Point (Divis Mountain)
Duke of Connaught's Unit, Belfast
Kinnegar, Hollywood
Massereene Barracks, Antrim
Magilligan Training Camp
Palace Barracks, Hollywood
Thiepval Barracks, Lisburn

OCCUPIED IRELAND

1 British soldier for every 370 persons

● Permanent British Army barracks

Troop figures accurate at time of print

RUC/PSNI DIFFERENT DAY - SAME POLICE

The British Army are, of course, the last line of defence for the occupation to be used only when all other options have failed. The first line of defence is the colonial police force, currently known as the PSNI.

Despite the recent name change, the core function of the PSNI is identical to that of the RUC and RIC before it - to protect the British state and British interests in Ireland.

It performs this function through ensuring that British law is upheld and by acting as the 'eyes and ears' of the British government in communities across the six counties.

The RUC/PSNI remains a 9,000 strong paramilitary militia unworthy of the support of the people of Ireland.

MI5

The final element of the trinity of British 'security' agencies in Ireland, MI5, is currently building a massive new £20m (€29m) headquarters in Palace Barracks, Belfast.

This building will be needed to coordinate the work of the hundreds of MI5 agents working across Ireland.

In 2007, MI5 took over control of 'national security intelligence' from the PSNI. MI5 remains under the direct control of the British Home Secretary.

'The notion of an unarmed police service is quite frankly a non-starter…
I have no plans to start removing guns.'

Hugh Orde,
Chief of the RUC/PSNI, June, 2007.

DEMOCRACY DENIED THE UNIONIST VETO REMAINS

The British Army, the RUC/PSNI and MI5 are only part of a much wider occupation of the six counties that extends into the political, economic, social and cultural spheres of Ireland's affairs.

While Ireland has been the target of British imperialism for centuries it was the act of partition in 1921 that set the backdrop for today's occupation of the six counties.

It was then that the British, with the support of their allies in Ireland, attempted to convince the world that the partitioning of Ireland was both democratic and necessary. That was untrue then and it is untrue now.

Those who support the British occupation today represent less then one-fifth of the people of Ireland and yet this minority are afforded a veto on a British withdrawal from Ireland.

This 'unionist veto' is an inherently anti-democratic denial of the right of the Irish people to self-determination. Those political institutions founded upon such injustice can only serve to legitimise and prolong partition and the British occupation.

It behoves all of those who support democracy and justice to challenge this monumental act of gerrymandering at every opportunity.